

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
 Takashi NIWA et al. :
 Serial No. 09/740,664 : Group Art Unit: 2878
 Filed: December 19, 2000 :
 For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL PROBE : Examiner - Thanh X. Luu
 HAVING CANTILEVER AND :
 PROBE FORMED OF TRANS- :
 PARENT MATERIAL, METHOD :
 FOR MANUFACTURING NEAR- :
 FIELD OPTICAL PROBE, AND :
 OPTICAL APPARATUS HAVING :
 NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL :
 PROBE (As Amended) : Docket No. S004-4168

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MS FEE AMENDMENT
 COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
 AND REQUIRED EXTENSION FEE

S I R:

Applicants respectfully request a one-month extension of time for replying to the Office Action dated September 16, 2003, and request that the period for taking further action be reset to expire on January 16, 2004. This is an extension request for replying to the September 16 Office Action within the first month pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

BY FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION ON JANUARY 15, 2004

The reason for the present request is to provide additional time to study the September 16 Office Action and take appropriate action in response thereto.

Authorization is hereby given to charge \$110.00 for the required extension fee to our Deposit Account No. 01-0268. Should it be determined that this amount is insufficient for any reason, authorization hereby is given to charge any such insufficiency to Deposit Account No. 01-0268.

Respectfully submitted,

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